

BRAZIL - AMAZON ECOLOGE & CRUISE



INTRODUCTION

This Amazon adventure combines a 2-night stay at the beautiful Amazon EcoPark Lodge with a 3-night cruise aboard the M/V Desafio visiting the amazing and unique Anavilhanas archipelago, the largest river archipelago in the world. Experience the rich biodiversity of the Amazon Rainforest as you take to motorised canoes to explore the many tributaries and walk along forest trails listening to the sounds of the jungle.

ITINERARY

TRIP CODE

BRTS6AEC

DEPARTURE

Enquire for exact
departure dates

DURATION

6 Days

LOCATIONS

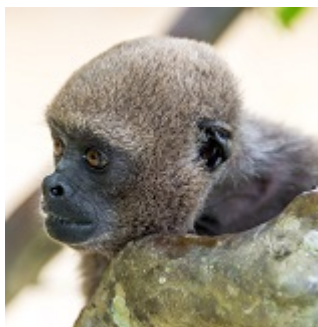
Brazil, Amazon



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DAY 1: Amazon EcoPark Jungle Lodge

On arrival into Manaus Airport you will be met and transferred to the Amazon EcoPark Lodge. About an hour from Manaus, including a 40 minute boat ride, the lodge is situated on the banks of the Rio Taruma, a tributary of the Rio Negro. The lodge features 70 bungalows decorated with Amazonian handicrafts and built under the rainforest tree canopy. Each apartment has its own entrance, balcony, screened windows, bathroom with electric shower, air-conditioning and mini bar. Facilities at the lodge include a bar, restaurant, 4 natural water pools, private beach, jungle trails and a pavilion featuring hammocks and lounge chairs. After settling into your comfortable room, we visit the Monkey Jungle Reserve with its many different species of monkeys. The Monkey Jungle Reserve is a centre for the rehabilitation of primates that were rescued from illegal traders or from areas of Brazil that have been flooded or destroyed by fire. Many of the monkeys are orphans. On arrival at the centre, the animals receive any necessary veterinary treatment and time to acclimatise to their new home, before being released into the wild. Species of monkeys at the Monkey Reserve include spider, woolly, squirrel and capuchin monkeys. After the visit we return to the lodge and later in the evening, a delicious dinner will be followed by a night trip by canoe to spot crocodiles and other nocturnal creatures using flashlights.



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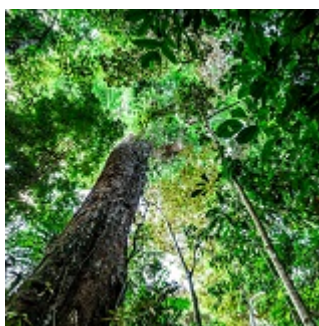
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DAY 2: Amazon EcoPark Jungle Lodge

We wake to the fresh morning mist and the intriguing sounds of the jungle coming to life. Following breakfast at the lodge, we set off on a Nature Hike. The thick, impenetrable jungle is home to more than two million species of flora and fauna. There are approximately 10 kilometres of jungle trails in and around the EcoPark area, taking you through virgin rainforest, natural savannahs and creeks and alongside crystal clear streams. The guide teaches us how to find potable water, how to build a shelter from natural resources found in the jungle, which plants are edible as well as basic orientation and first aid. After the Nature Hike we return to the lodge for lunch and time to relax. In the afternoon we visit the homes of caboclos or local Amazonian residents. Here we learn about their customs and traditions, the history of the Amazon, the preparation of cassava meal and the rubber cycle including how extracted rubber sap is smoked. There is also the opportunity to try your hand at piranha fishing. The notorious piranha is perhaps the most feared freshwater fish in the world. It is a common misconception that they are vicious man-eaters. The majority of species are not carnivorous but they make a delicious meal, if you manage to catch them!



DAY 3: Embarkation on M/V Desafio - Maguari Cruise

After a final breakfast at the lodge, you will be transferred to Manaus pier where you will board the M/V Desafio for the start of your 4-day cruise visiting the amazing and unique Anavilhanas archipelago. The M/V Desafio sets sail from Manaus at 2:00pm to head towards the "Tres Bocas" region of the archipelago. After a welcome cocktail, the guide will provide an introduction to the Amazon, the boat and details of the itinerary. The archipelago of Anavilhanas is the largest river archipelago in the world with igarapés (permanent river channels) and igapós (non-permanent river channels). Its waters are acidic and so endemic mosquitoes are practically non-existent. After dinner on board we head out in motorised canoes to listen to the sounds of the jungle and maybe spot some nocturnal wildlife.



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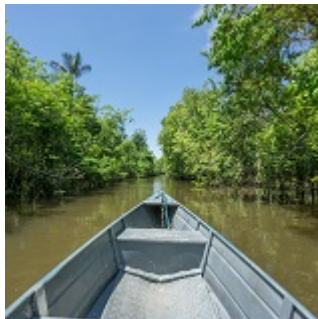
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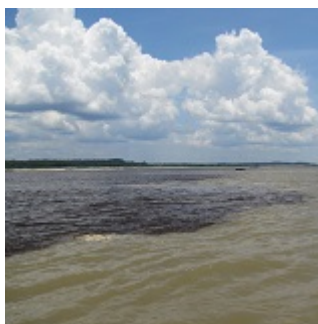
DAY 4: The Anavilhanas Islands

Early this morning at 5.30am we take a boat ride to admire the sunrise in the forest and listen to the many species of birds. Back on board we have breakfast as the ship navigates towards the indigenous community of Terra Preta. The visit to this community gives us the opportunity to meet the indigenous people and learn about their lifestyle and habits. We return to the ship and navigate towards Jaraqui' village. We take a river trip by motorised canoe and stop to take a jungle trek to explore the rainforest and its fauna and flora. At the end of the excursion we return to the ship for dinner and to relax on board.



DAY 5: Meeting of the Waters

After breakfast on the Desafio we sail towards the local village of Acajatuba. En-route we stop at the floating station "Recanto dos Botos" to interact with the pink dolphins and feed the pirarucu fish, one of the world's largest freshwater fish. The pirarucu grows up to 3 metres in length and is an important food for the local people. Lunch is taken on board the M/V Desafio before we depart to navigate along the Rio Negro towards its confluence with the Rio Solimões, the upper section of the Amazon River. This confluence is known as the "Meeting of the Waters", the two rivers running alongside each other for 6 kilometres without mixing, due to their differences in temperature, density and speed. The phenomenon is clearly visible as the water of the Rio Negro is dark, nearly black in colour, whereas the water of the Solimões is sandy-coloured. After witnessing the "Meeting of the Waters" we try our hand at piranha fishing before taking dinner in the restaurant. This evening sees us taking a canoe ride along the streams and tributaries in search of caiman and other nocturnal animals using flashlights.



DAY 6: Manaus - Disembark M/V Desafio

After another tropical breakfast on board, we depart to see the giant and beautiful Amazonian water lilies along the Rio Negro as we sail back to the city of Manaus, arriving at 11:00am. After disembarking from the ship, you will be transferred to Manaus Airport for your onward flight.



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INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

Accommodation	Superior Lodge and ship cruise
Inclusions	Accommodation with breakfast everyday. Airport transfers. Meals: 02 lunches, 02 dinners and 02 breakfasts when staying at Amazon Ecolodge and full board on the M/V Desafio. Daily excursions.
Difficulty Rating	2 (light adventure)
Single Surcharge	FROM US\$1,100 - Subject to season and availability, contact us for more details.
Notes	Activities might be re-arranged on arrival by our local operations department. Contact us for more details
Price Dependent upon	Season and availability

SUSTAINABILITY

Chimu Adventures undertakes a number of sustainability measures within its operations including:

- 1) Only using local guides and office staff to both maximise local employment opportunities and minimise carbon footprints. Local guides also ensure you benefit from the intimate knowledge, passion and culture of the country you're visiting.
- 2) Where possible, using locally owned and operated boutique hotels to maximise the return to the local community.
- 3) Chimu's "Pass it on" programme has provided funding to hundreds of local community projects in Latin America. Our aim is to empower local communities, helping them to develop their own infrastructure for the future. Since 2006, we have been working with Kiva (a well-known Non-Governmental Organisation), providing hundreds of loans to local businesses all over South America.
- 4) In our pre tour information we provide a range of tips and advice on how to minimise your impact on both local environments and communities.
- 5) Chimu Adventures' offices also take a number of sustainability measures including carbon offsets for company vehicles and most staff travel. Chimu Adventure's internal

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processes are also structures to create a paperless office and to reduce waste. There are also internal programmes to help staff minimise their carbon footprint such as our staff bike purchase assistance plan which encourages office staff to commute to work via bicycle. Currently almost half of our office based staff commute to work via bicycle.

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